27th July 1953]

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

'That the proposed Andhra State Bill, 1953, having been considered fully and approved, this House is of the view that the Bill should be amended on the lines indicated in the opinions and resolutions approved by the House.' "

The motion was put and carried, the non-Andhra Members who were present voting for it.

V.—NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

MR. SPEAKER :—" We shall now take up non-official business."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I wish to state that in the situation that has arisen rather by surprise, I do not think it will be proper for me to take up the discussion of the Modified Elementary Education Scheme at this stage when so many hon. Members are absent."

A. Bills.

(1) THE MADRAS PROHIBITION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1953.

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1953." 11-10 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I shall read the relevant rules—

'76. (1) If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from a member who opposes the motion, may, without further debate, put the question thereon.

(2) If such a motion is agreed to, the Bill shall be deemed to have been introduced.

77. As soon as may be after leave to introduce a Bill has been granted, the Bill shall be published in the Gazette.' "

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I understand the object of the Bill. But I think that the shape is misconceived. The object is to make a change in the Criminal Procedure Code in respect of prosecutions under the Prohibition Act. Under the Criminal Procedure Code, statements of certain kinds are not admissible as evidence such as statements made in confession. The hon. Member wants to introduce a provision in the law under which statements of a different class of people also should not be taken as admissible in cases of prosecution under the Prohibition Act. I think the object in view can be achieved only by an amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code. After explaining this, I leave the matter at that. The hon. Member may take advice and do whatever he likes.

" I have no objection to the introduction of the Bill."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

'That leave to introduce the Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1953, be granted.' "

The motion was put and carried and leave granted.

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" I introduce the Bill."

(2) THE MALABAR AGRARIAN RELATIONS BILL, 1953.

* SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Malabar Agrarian Relations Bill, 1953."

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" I oppose the motion, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" After a brief statement from the mover and the opposer, I will put the motion to vote."

* SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bill for whose introduction I am seeking the leave of this House is conceived for the benefit of the ryots of Malabar, certain taluks of South Kanara and one taluk of the Nilgiris district. The object of the Bill is to see that the agrarian relations are so readjusted as to produce a contented class of people who will be more interested in agriculture and thereby increase the productivity of the land in the country generally and in Malabar in particular. It is a matter of common knowledge for the Members of this House that in Malabar for long there has been an agitation by the tenant class, particularly the cultivating tenant class, for equitable rent and for some kind of fixity of tenure in respect of their holdings. The Bill contains certain provisions altogether new for giving statutory effect to the cherished desire of the tenants. The Hon. Minister has adopted the unusual procedure of opposing the introduction of the Bill. It is only fair that the House should be given an opportunity to consider the Bill in detail and reject it if it is found unsuitable. To forestall the decision of the House and to oppose even the introduction of the Bill is certainly a novel, unusually extraordinary and unprecedented course for the Hon. Minister to adopt. On former occasions when this House had to consider certain taxation Bills, some Members raised objection even to granting leave for introduction. The Hon. Speaker then pointed out that this course was unusual and rarely adopted, because normally the House must be given an opportunity to discuss the provisions and then reject the Bills if necessary. The House will have an opportunity of discussing the Bill only if leave for introduction is given.

" The Hon. Minister has introduced a Bill for amending the Malabar Tenancy Act. If leave is granted, there will be two Bills side by side, one very progressive and attractive and the other somewhat retrograde. If the real object of the Minister is to see that the two pictures are not presented side by side, I beg to submit this. The Malabar Tenancy Amendment Bill is of a very minor nature and it can hardly satisfy the people. It has already raised serious